

Remarks

The Examiner has alleged that the claims do not satisfy the unity of invention requirement and required election of one the following seven groups of claims:

- Group I: Claims 1, 4, 6, and 7 drawn to a PHA comprising at least a unit represented by chemical formula (1);
- Group II: Claim 2, drawn to a PHA having a unit represented by chemical formula (1), (2), (3), (4A), or (4B);
- Group III: Claims 3 and 5, drawn to a PHA having a unit represented by chemical formula (5);
- Group IV: Claim 8, drawn to a method for producing a PHA comprising at least a unit represented by chemical formula (1);
- Group V: Claim 9, drawn to a method for producing a PHA comprising at least a unit represented by chemical formula (32);
- Group VI: Claim 10, drawn to a method for producing a PHA comprising at least a unit represented by chemical formula (35); and
- Group VII: Claim 11, drawn to a method for producing a PHA comprising at least a unit represented by chemical formula (38).

Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 1, 4, 6, and 7, with traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that at least claim 2 of Group II should be examined with the claims of Group I. In particular, as the Examiner will note, claim 2 recites a PHA in which a unit of chemical formula (1) according to claim 1 is more specifically defined as being a unit of chemical formula (2), (3), (4A), or (4B).

Also, the Examiner referred to a PHA of Group I as being a homopolymer. However, as the Examiner will note, claims 1, 4, 6, and 7 are not limited to a homopolymer and can encompass a co-polymer, which includes at least one unit of chemical formula (1).

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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FCBS_WS 2556724v1